

Gender Statistics, 2016

1. Introduction

This is the eighth issue of Economic and Social Indicators (ESI) on gender statistics. It presents a portrait of women and men in the Republic of Mauritius and includes their demographic profile, health, family status, educational attainment and labour force characteristics.

The ESI is based on latest available sex disaggregated data from administrative sources, household surveys and censuses. Some of the statistics presented therefore refer to years earlier than 2016.

2. Highlights

- (i) In 2016, the population comprised 638,267 women compared to 625,206 men. Women outnumbered men by 13,061 as they live on average seven years longer than men.
- (ii) Women continue to give birth to fewer children than in the past.
- (iii) Both men and women are getting married at an older age and the age difference between them is narrowing over time.
- (iv) Diabetes mellitus was the leading cause of death accounting for 24.0% of deaths among women and 22.6% among men.
- (v) More women than men are enrolled in tertiary institutions but there are fewer women in research (PhD, MPhil and Doctor of Business Administration).
- (vi) Working women are more likely than men to be employees and contributing family workers but less likely to be heading a business.
- (vii) In spite of being fewer in the labour force, women are more numerous among the unemployed.
- (viii) Unemployed women were generally more qualified than their male counterparts.
- (ix) Women tend to draw lower salaries/wages than men across all occupations.
- (x) The proportion of women in the most senior positions (Senior Chief Executive, Permanent Secretary, Deputy Permanent Secretary, Director, Manager, Judge and Magistrate) increased from 23% in 2001 to 40% in 2016.
- (xi) Women are more likely to be victims of domestic violence than men.
- (xii) Men are more likely to be victims of homicides and assaults while women are more prone to sexual offences.
- (xiii) Men are more likely than women to participate in sports as high level athletes.
- (xiv) Between 2015 and 2016, Mauritius improved its ranking from 120 to 113 out of 144 countries worldwide with regard to the Global Gender Gap Index (GGI) of the World Economic Forum. The GGI seeks to measure gender equality across four key areas: economic participation and opportunity, educational attainment, health and survival and political empowerment.

3. Population

Prior to 1950 women were fewer than men in number. However, the female population has been growing at a faster rate such that in the 50's there were almost equal numbers of men and women. This balance in the population has been maintained for some 40 years. As from 1990, women have been increasingly outnumbering men over the years.

In 2016, there were 13,061 more women than men. Out of a total population of 1,263,473, there were 638,267 women against 625,206 men, i.e., 98 men for every 100 women.

Though women were more numerous in the total population, this was not the case in all age groups. At the younger ages (under 50 years), men were more numerous mainly due to more births of baby boys than girls. In 2016, there were 103 male births for every 100 female births.

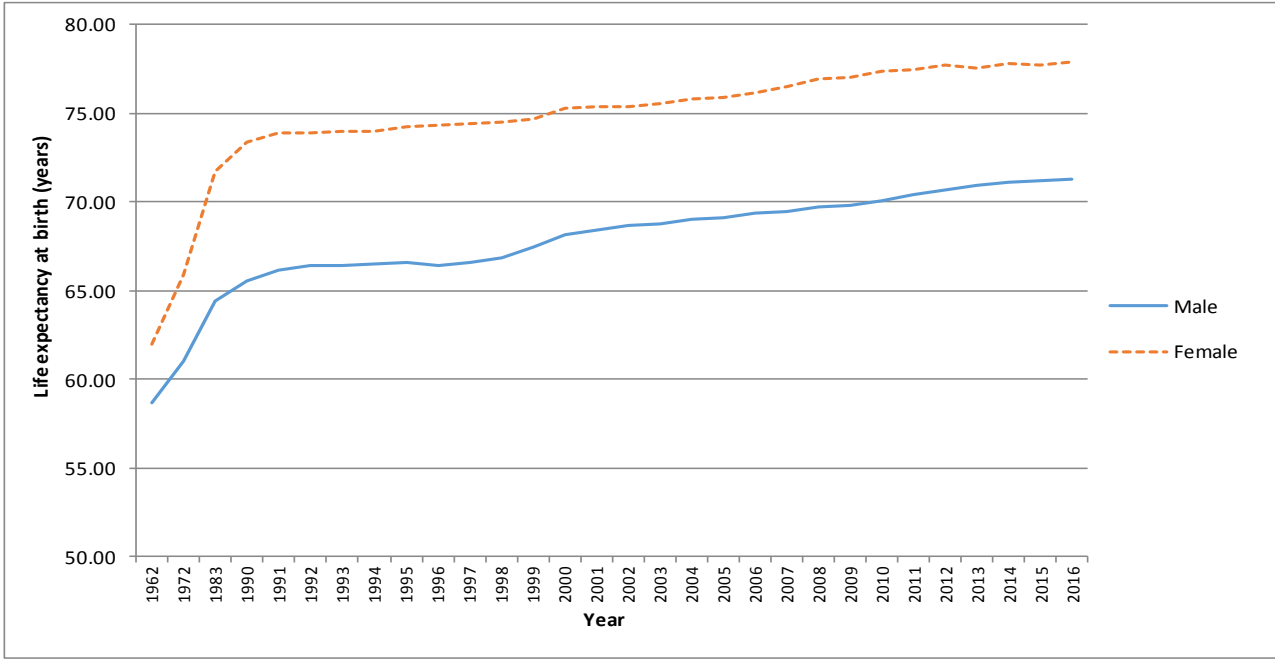
At ages 50 years and above, women outnumbered men and their proportion increased at higher ages. The male-female ratio stood at around 102 for those aged between 40 to 49 years compared to 53 among those aged 80 years and over; there were around 2 women for every man in this age group. The main reason for this imbalance is that women live longer than men.

Table 1 – Population by age and sex, Republic of Mauritius, 1st July 2016

Age Group (years)	Male	Female	Both sexes	Sex ratio (males per 100 females)
Under 10	74,059	71,913	145,972	103.0
10 - 19	97,848	94,650	192,498	103.4
20 - 29	95,936	94,079	190,015	102.0
30 - 39	95,566	93,513	189,079	102.2
40 - 49	86,958	85,115	172,073	102.2
50 - 59	88,510	90,511	179,021	97.8
60 - 79	78,391	93,437	171,828	83.9
80+	7,938	15,049	22,987	52.7
Total	625,206	638,267	1,263,473	98.0

Women have a higher life expectancy than men. In fact, women live around 7 years longer than men. In 2016, life expectancy at birth for women was 78 years compared to 71 years for men. Life expectancy at birth has improved over the years for both men and women and over the past fifteen years, the gap between life expectancy of men and women stabilised at around 7 years (Chart 1).

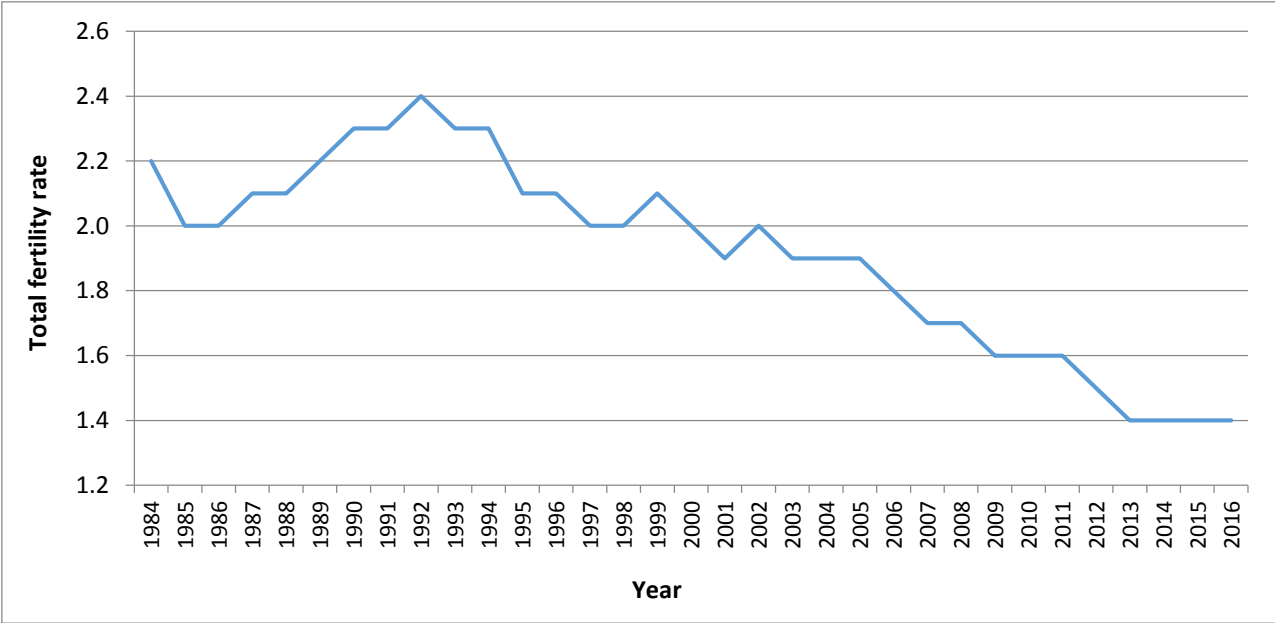
Chart 1 - Life Expectancy at birth, Republic of Mauritius, 1962 - 2016



4. Fertility and Contraceptive Use

Women continue to give birth to fewer children than in the past. The total fertility rate, which is an indication of the average number of babies born to a woman during her childbearing period, has maintained a general decreasing trend over the last 24 years. The average number of children born to a woman dropped by nearly one child to reach a total fertility rate of 1.4 in 2016.

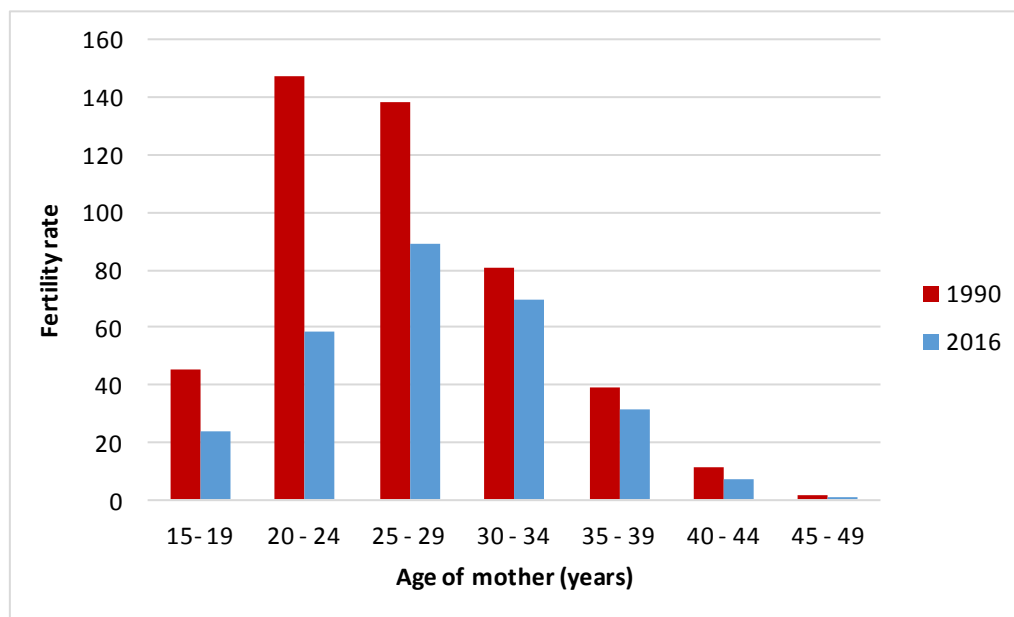
Chart 2 - Total Fertility Rate, Republic of Mauritius, 1984 - 2016



In the 1990's, women in the age bracket 20-24 years had the highest fertility with 147 births per 1,000 women of that age group (Chart 3). The peak fertility shifted to the age bracket 25-29 years

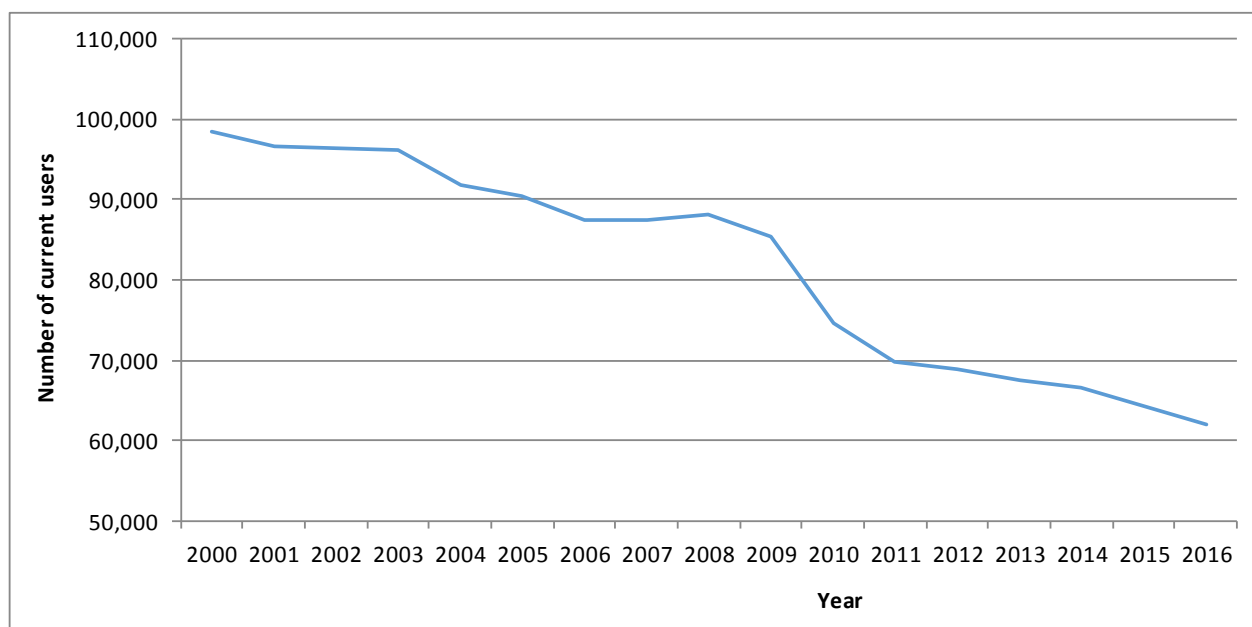
in 2016, with only 89 births per 1,000 women in that age group. One of the reasons explaining this shift is that women are getting married at an older age.

Chart 3 – Fertility Rate by age of mother, Republic of Mauritius, 1990 and 2016



In 2016, Government Family Planning Clinics, Mauritius Family Planning & Welfare Association and Action Familiale registered a total of some 61,965 current users of contraceptive methods in the Island of Mauritius, a decrease of 25,447 from 87,412 in 2006.

Chart 4 – Number of current users of contraceptives, Island of Mauritius, 2000 - 2016



New acceptors of contraceptive methods registered in 2016 numbered 4,126 of whom 455 had tubal ligation. A declining trend was observed in the number of new acceptors from 7,491 in 2006.

Among the new acceptors in 2016, Sympto-thermal (25.9%), Pill (20.6%) and Male Condom (18.1%) were the preferred methods of contraception while for current users Sympto-thermal (44.0%) was the preferred method.

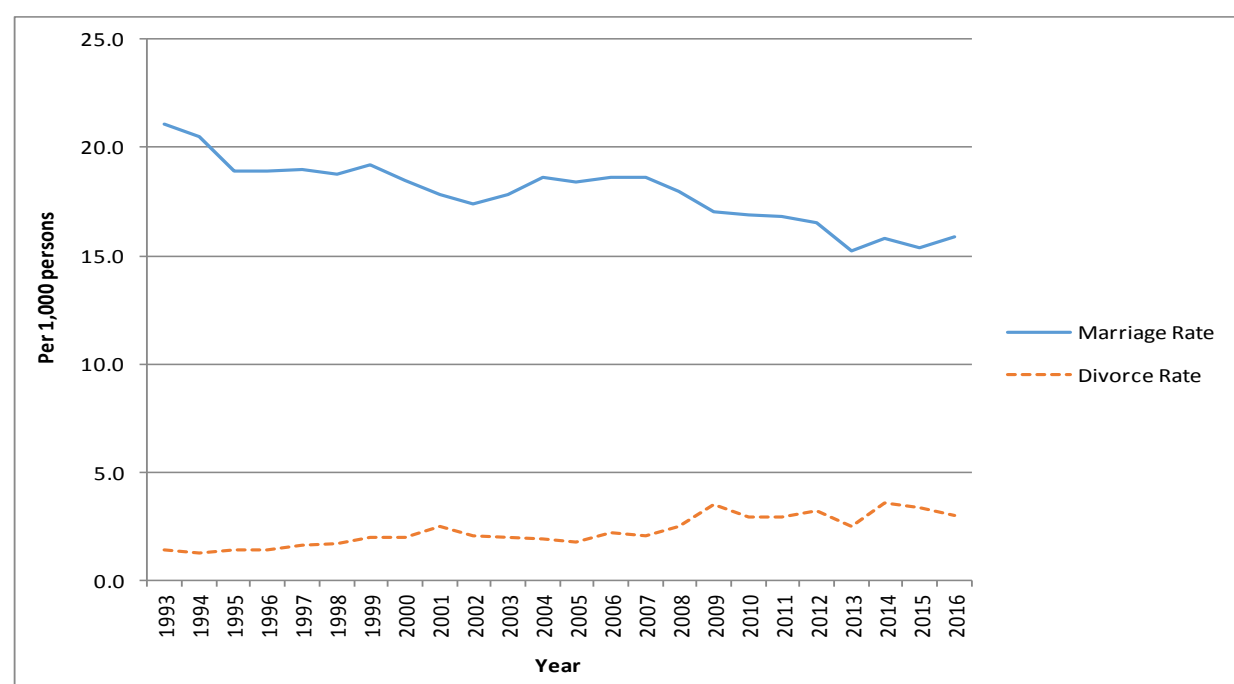
Table 2 – Method of family planning, Island of Mauritius, 2016

Methods	New Acceptors (%)	Current Users (%)
Pill	20.6	10.0
Tubal Ligation	11.0	23.4
Sympto-thermal	25.9	44.0
Male Condom	18.1	11.7
3-month injectable	17.7	4.9
Intra-uterine Devices	1.7	3.4
1-month injectable	3.6	0.8
Implant	1.4	1.8
Total	100.0	100.0

5. Family Status

While marriage rate is declining, divorce rate is on the rise. The marriage rate, i.e., the number of persons married per 1,000 mid-year population, fell from 21.1 in 1993 to 15.9 in 2016. The number of divorced persons per 1,000 mid-year population increased from 1.4 in 1993 to 3.0 in 2016 (Chart 5).

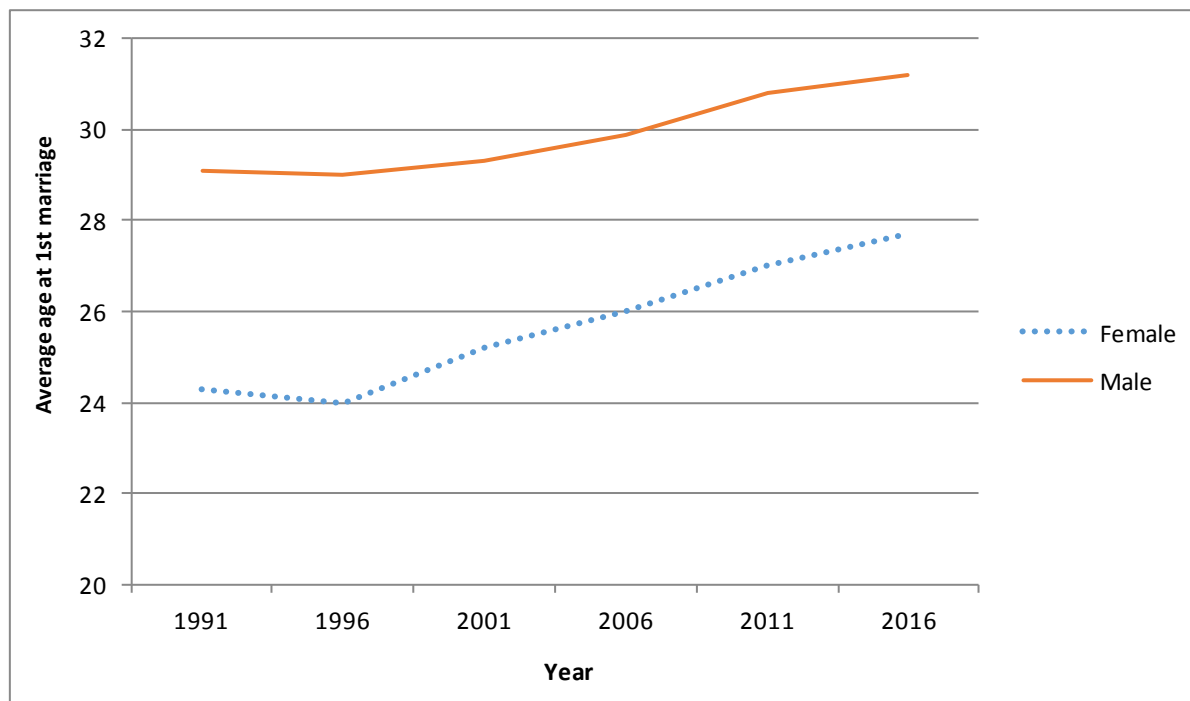
Chart 5 – Marriage and Divorce Rate, Republic of Mauritius, 1993 - 2016



Generally women tend to marry men who are older than them. However, over the past 25 years the age difference between husband and wife narrowed from 4.8 years in 1991 to 3.5 years in 2016.

The average age at first marriage has been gradually increasing over the years for both women and men. The average age at first marriage for women increased from 24.3 years in 1991 to reach 27.7 years in 2016 while that for men increased from 29.1 to 31.2 during the same period.

Chart 6 – Average age at first marriage, Republic of Mauritius, 1991 - 2016



Of the 1,910 divorces granted by the Supreme Court in 2016, the woman was the petitioner in 46% of the cases. An analysis of the divorce statistics by single year duration of marriage indicate that couples had the highest tendency to divorce within the 3-10 years duration of marriage.

Table 3 – Divorce by petitioner, Republic of Mauritius, 2015 & 2016

Petitioner	2015	%	2016	%
Husband	628	29.1	551	28.8
Wife	1,011	46.8	881	46.1
Joint petitioner (both husband & wife)	522	24.2	478	25.0
Total divorces	2,161	100.0	1,910	100.0

Table 4 – Divorce by duration of union, Republic of Mauritius, 2016

Duration of union (years)	Number	%
< 1 year	4	0.2
1 and <3	155	8.1
3 and <5	226	11.8
5 and <10	505	26.4
10 and <15	402	21.0
15 and <25	450	23.6
25 or more	168	8.8
Total divorces	1,910	100.0

About one third of the couples who divorced in 2016 did not have children while slightly more than half of them had 1 to 2 children. There were 29 couples with 4 or more children.

Table 5 – Divorce by number of dependent children¹, Republic of Mauritius, 2016

Number of children	Number	%
0	653	34.2
1	601	31.5
2	480	25.1
3	147	7.7
4	23	1.2
5 or more	6	0.3
Total	1,910	100.0

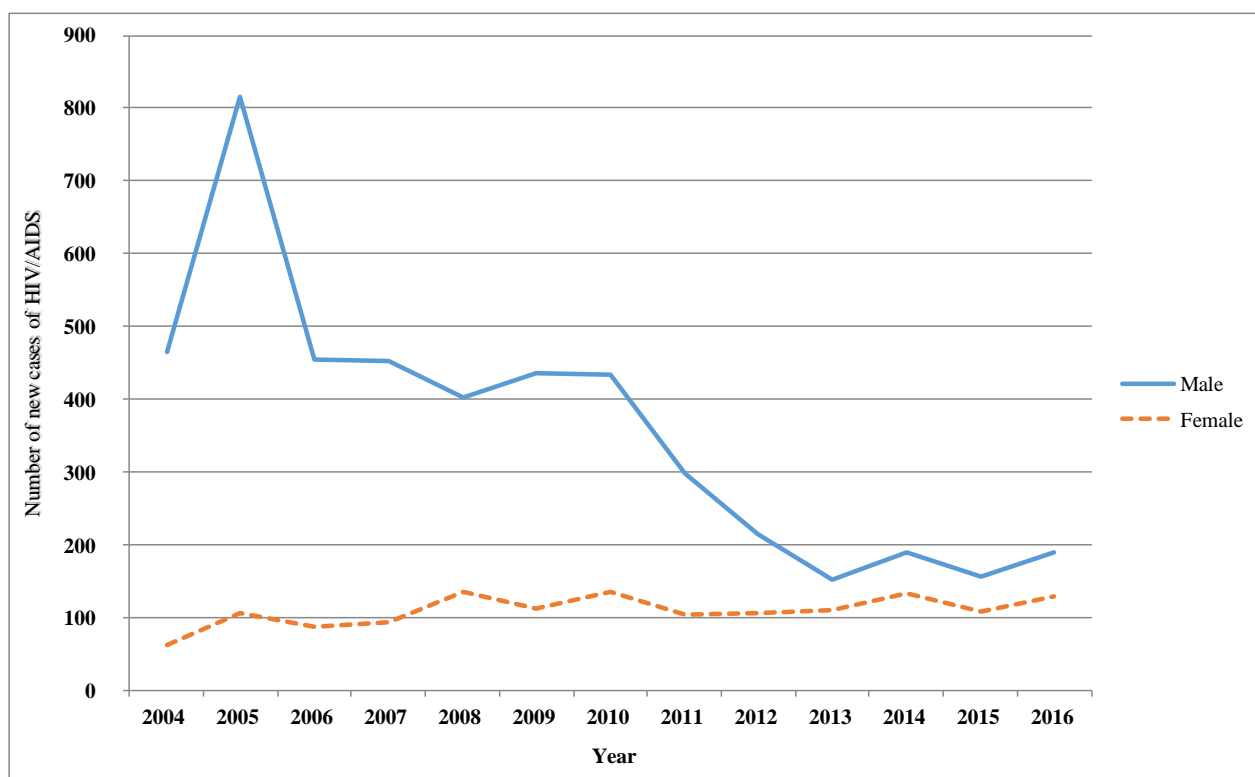
¹ dependent children are the living children who are dependent on either of the divorcees at the time the divorce petition is filed

6. Health

Since October 1987 when the first cases of AIDS were registered, the number has been increasing to reach 6,671 at December 2016, of whom 24 % were women.

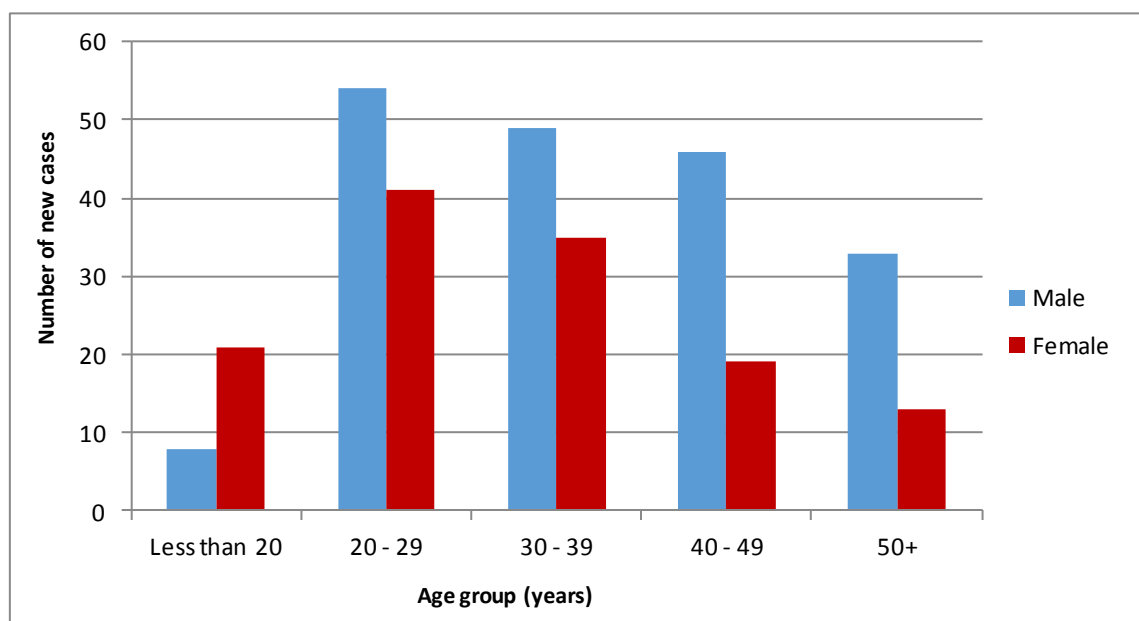
During 2016, 319 new cases of HIV/AIDS were registered among Mauritians and the proportion of women among the new cases was 40% compared to 16% in 2006.

Chart 7 – New HIV/AIDS cases, Republic of Mauritius, 2004 - 2016



In 2016, out of the 129 new HIV cases detected among females, 82% was due to heterosexual as mode of transmission and 12% due to drug injection. As regards males, among the 190 new cases, the percentages were 43% and 46% respectively.

Chart 8 – Number of new HIV/AIDS cases by sex and age, 2016

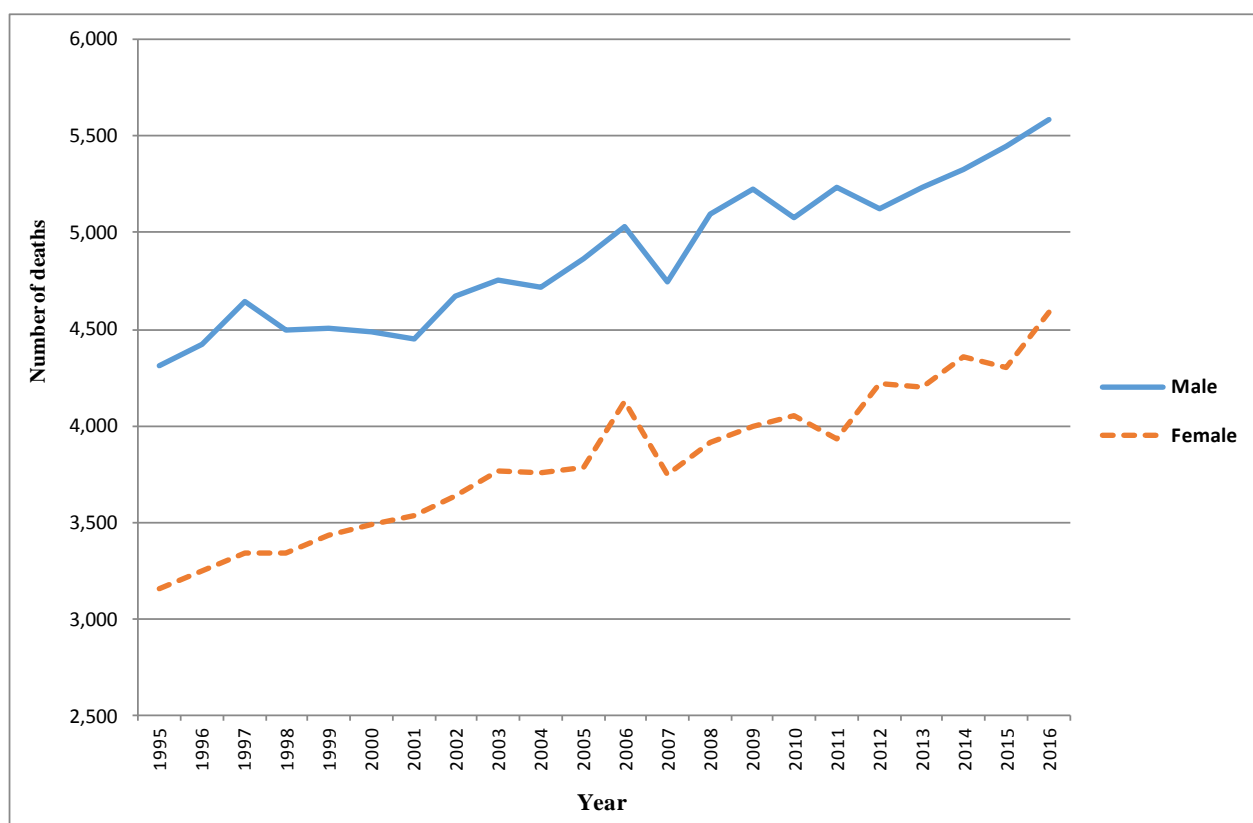


Among the newly detected cases in 2016, 56.1% were in the age group 20-39 years. Both women and men were predominant in the age group 20-29 years with 31.8% and 28.4% respectively.

7. Mortality

Though women are more numerous than men in the population, there are fewer deaths among women than among men. In 2016, 5,588 men compared to 4,586 women died. The crude death rate for 2016 was 8.9 for man and 7.2 for woman.

Chart 9 – Number of deaths by sex, Republic of Mauritius, 1995 - 2016



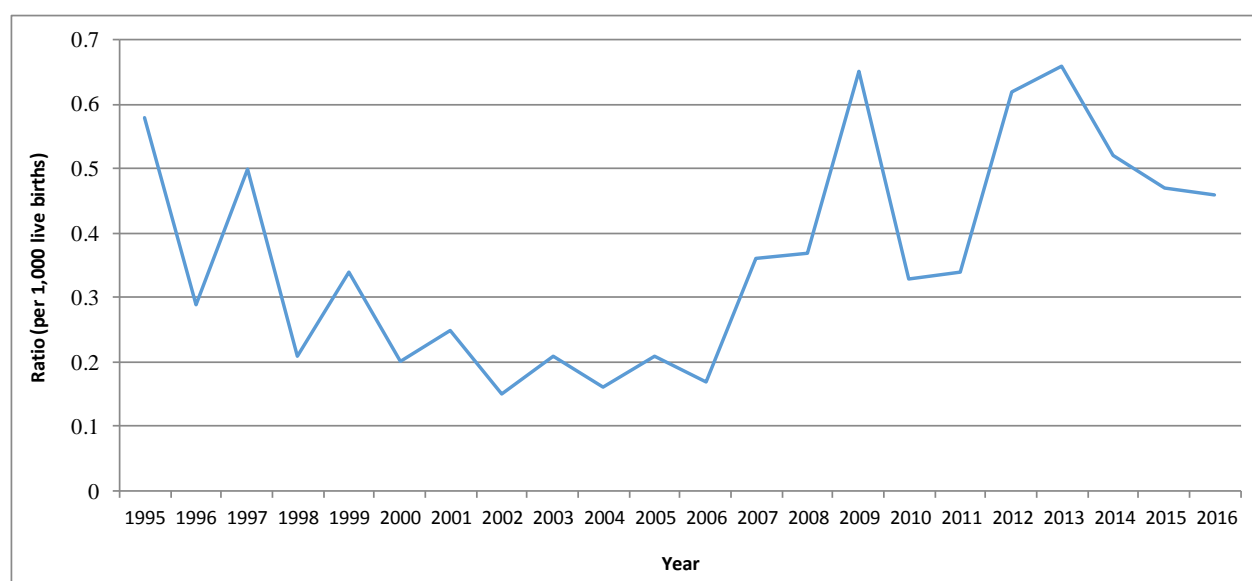
In 2016, diabetes mellitus was the leading cause of death accounting for 24.0% of deaths among women and 22.6% among men. Heart disease and cerebrovascular disease were respectively responsible for 20.2% and 10.7% of deaths among women and 19.2% and 9.7% of deaths among men. Causes of death specific to women, such as breast and uterus cancer were responsible for 5.4% of deaths among women while maternal deaths was responsible for another 0.1%. Compared to men, women were more likely to die of hypertensive disease and neoplasms but less likely to die of cirrhosis of the liver and to commit suicide.

Table 6 – Deaths (%) by cause and sex, Republic of Mauritius, 2016

Cause of death	Male	Female
Diabetes mellitus	22.6	24.0
Heart disease	19.2	20.2
Hypertensive Disease	4.0	6.5
Neoplasm:	5.8	8.2
of which: breast cancer (malignant)	-	4.0
uterus cancer (malignant)	n/a	1.4
Cerebrovascular disease	9.7	10.7
Cirrhosis of liver	2.5	0.7
Suicide	1.6	0.3
Maternal death	n/a	0.1
Other	34.6	29.3
Total	100.0	100.0

The risk of a woman dying as a result of pregnancy or childbirth during her lifetime has generally been declining over the years with slightly higher level of maternal deaths in recent years. From 1995 to 2006, the maternal mortality ratio declined from 0.58 maternal death per 1,000 live births to 0.17. After 2006, the maternal mortality ratio was on a rising trend to reach 0.66 in 2013, but then decreased to reach 0.46 in 2016.

Chart 10 – Maternal Mortality Ratio, Republic of Mauritius, 1995 - 2016



8. Education

Boys and girls are equally likely to go to pre-primary and primary schools. The Gender Parity Index (GPI) which measures the relative educational participation of boys and girls was 1.0 for both pre-primary and primary, indicating no disparity.

Table 7 – Gross Enrolment Rates (%) by sex, Republic of Mauritius, 2016

GER	Male	Female	Total	Gender Parity Index
Pre-Primary (4 - 5 years)	100	100	100	1.0
Primary (6 - 11 years)	96	97	97	1.0
Secondary (12 - 19 years)	76	81	78	1.1

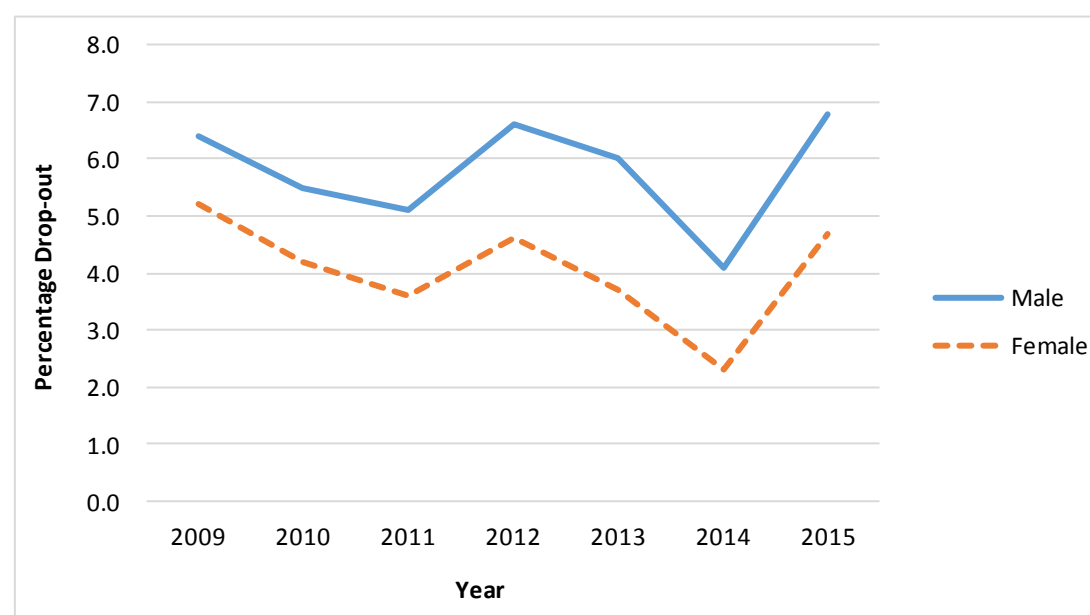
At the end of primary, girls generally perform better than boys at the Certificate of Primary Education (CPE) examinations. In 2016, the pass rate for girls was nearly 80% against 69% for boys.

Consequently at secondary level, girls are more likely to be enrolled than boys. The transition rate, i.e. the proportion of pupils stepping from primary level to secondary level in 2015 was around 94% for boys and 97% for girls.

The Gender Parity Index (GPI) in secondary enrolment, which measures the relative access to secondary education of males and females was 1.1 in 2016 showing a disparity in favour of girls.

Girls are less likely than boys to drop out from secondary academic stream, 5% against 7% for boys.

Chart 11 –Drop-out Rate at secondary academic stream, Republic of Mauritius, 2009 - 2015



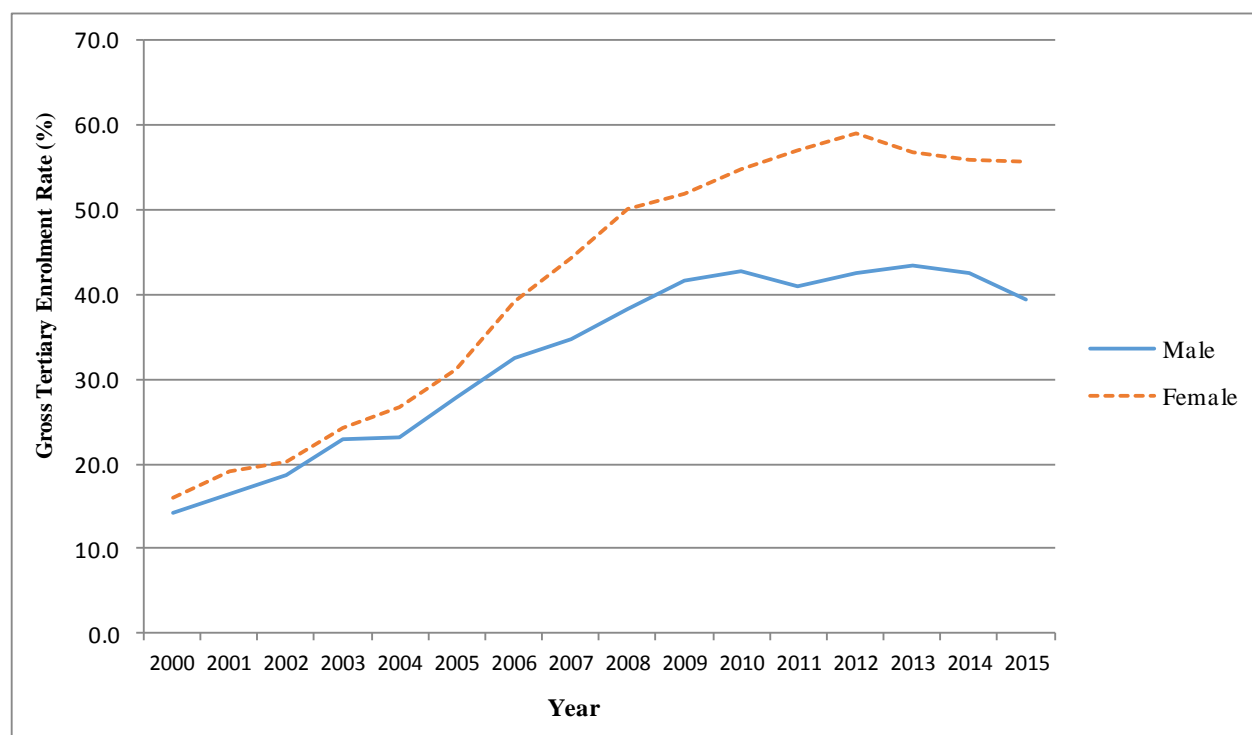
Girls generally perform better than boys at the Higher School Certificate (HSC) examinations.

Table 8 – Pass Rate (%) at HSC, Republic of Mauritius, 2010 - 2016

Year	Male	Female
2010	73.7	81.7
2011	75.3	82.3
2012	74.8	82.2
2013	73.9	80.8
2014	70.0	79.1
2015	72.0	77.8
2016	70.9	78.2

Consequently, more women than men are enrolled in tertiary institutions. Tertiary enrolment for both girls and boys increased over time but with a widening gap in favour of girls. Tertiary enrolment, as measured by the Gross Tertiary Enrolment Rate (GTER), rose from 16 in 2000 to 56 per cent in 2015 for women, and from 14 to 39 per cent for men during the same period. In 2015, women enrolled in public, private and overseas tertiary institutions numbered 28,236, representing 58% of the student population which stood at 48,970.

Chart 12 – Gross Tertiary Enrolment Rate (GTER), Republic of Mauritius, 2000 - 2015



Both men and women were mostly enrolled in Bachelor Degree. There were fewer women than men at doctoral level, 176 women against 210 men. As a result, women continue to be underrepresented in research.

Table 9 – No. of student enrolled¹ in tertiary institutions by level, 2015

Level	Male	Female	Total
PhD	102	80	182
MPhil	84	88	172
DBA ²	24	8	32
Masters Degree	1,609	1,730	3,339
PG Diploma	69	49	118
PG Certificate	165	523	688
Bachelor Degree	8,622	11,509	20,131
Professional	2,205	3,037	5,242
Diploma	1,122	1,419	2,541
Certificate	93	50	143
Total	14,095	18,493	32,588

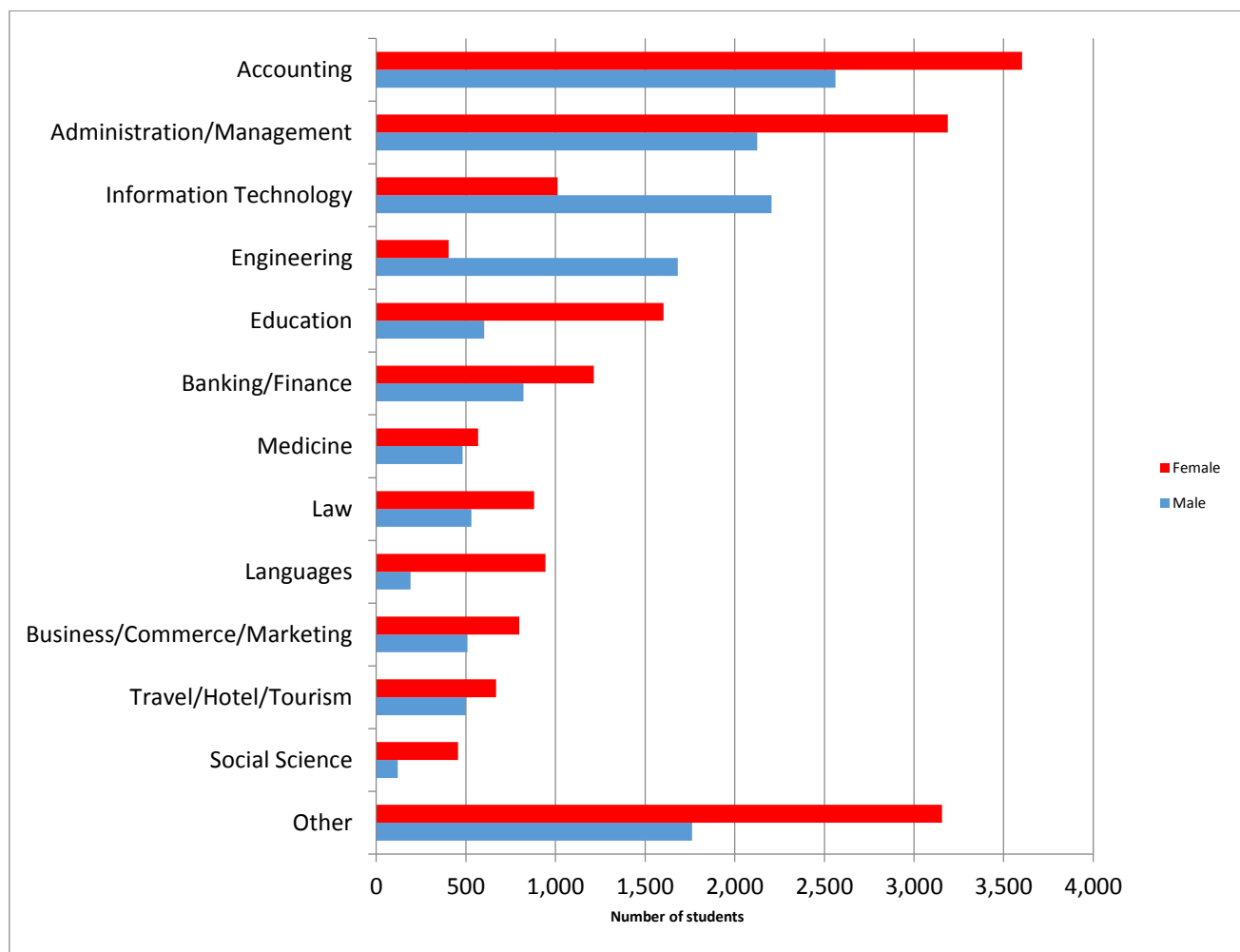
¹*Enrolment in local public and private institutions, excluding overseas students*

²*Doctor of Business Administration*

Accounting was the most popular field of study for both men and women (18% and 20% respectively). Information Technology was the second most popular subject for men (16%) followed by Administration/Management (15%) and Engineering (12%). Administration/Management was the second choice for women (17%) followed by Education (9%) and Banking/Finance (7%).

Women were underrepresented in science related fields such as Engineering (2% against 12%) and Information Technology (6% against 16%) whereas men were underrepresented in Education (4% against 9%) and Languages (1% against 5%).

Chart 13 – Number of student enrolled¹ in tertiary institutions by field of study, 2015



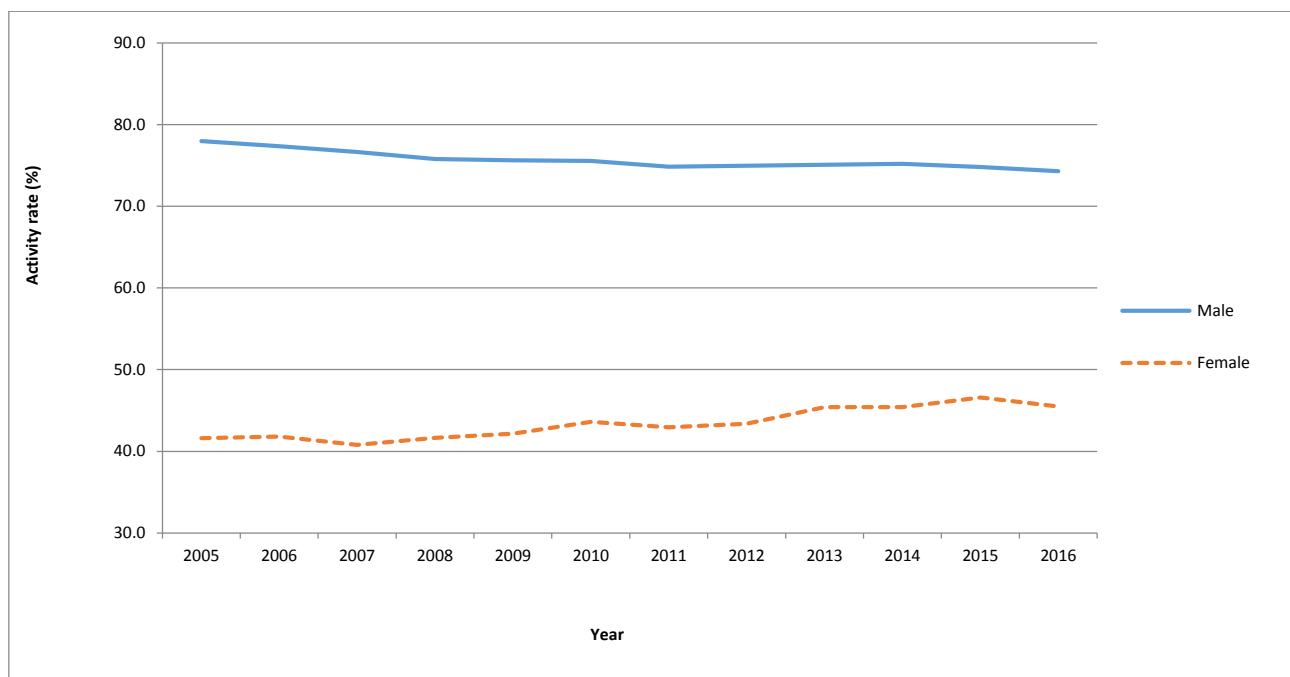
¹Enrolment in local public and private institutions, excluding overseas students

9. Economics Characteristics

In 2016, the active Mauritian population (aged 16 years and above) stood at 581,000 with 353,600 men and 227,400 women. Around 46% of women of working age was in the labour force compared to 74% of men.

During the period 2005 to 2016, male activity rate was consistently higher than female activity rate. However, the gap has been narrowing over time as the activity rate for men has been decreasing over the years while that of females has been generally increasing.

Chart 14 – Activity rate (%) by sex, 2005 - 2016



Men and women have a similar age pattern of economic activity, i.e., less active at the younger and older age groups. Over the years, the shape of the curve for female activity rate by age has been tending towards that of the male. The increase in the level of activity among women was more pronounced among those aged 25 to 29 years.

Chart 15 – Activity rate (%) by age group and sex, 2006 and 2016

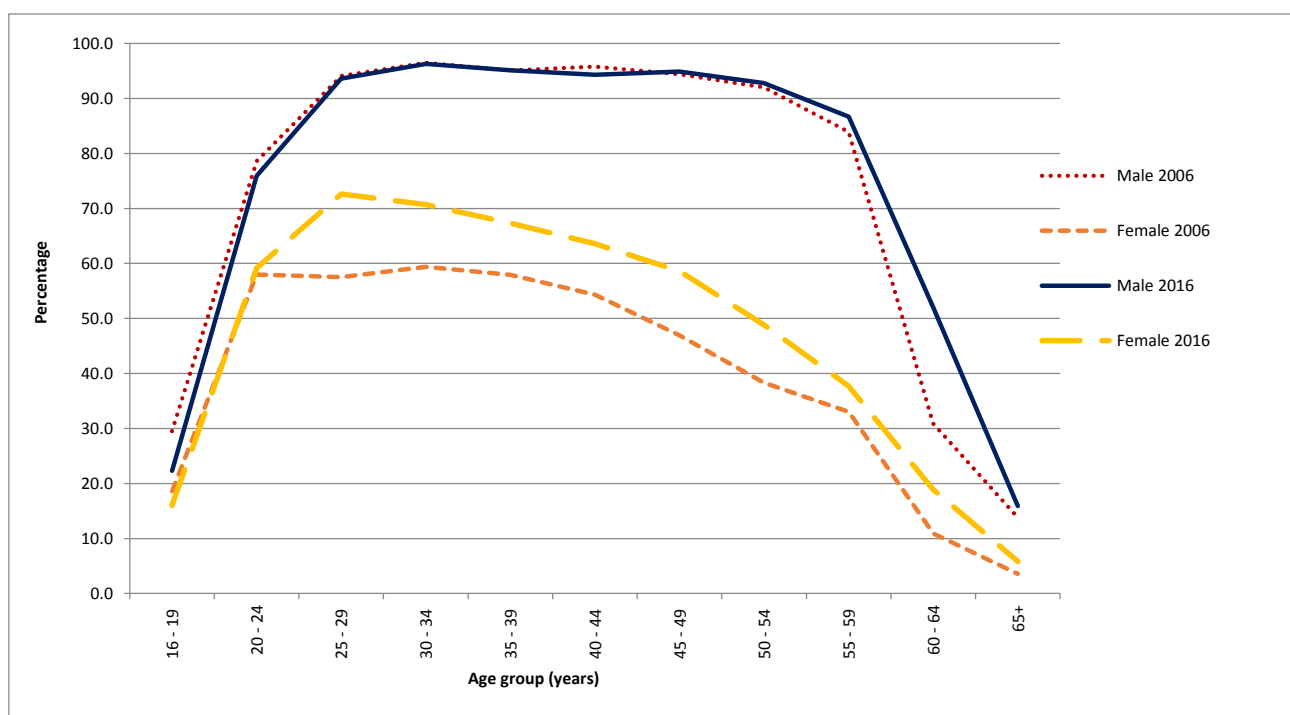


Table 10 – Employed persons by industrial sector and sex, 2016

Industrial sector	Male	Female
Primary	27,500	12,300
Secondary	106,500	33,800
Tertiary	202,700	155,800
All sectors	336,700	201,900

Both women and men had a high proportion of their working population in the tertiary sector (covering trade, accommodation service, transportation, health, education and other service industries), 60% for men and 77% for women. The secondary sector (covering manufacturing, electricity & water and construction) accounted for about one third of the working men and one sixth of the working women. The primary sector (comprising agriculture and mining & quarrying) employed 8% and 6% of the working men and women respectively.

Table 11 – Distribution (%) of employed persons by employment status and sex, 2016

Employment status	Male	Female
Employer	6.1	1.6
Own Account Worker	16.8	9.3
Employee	76.2	84.8
Contributing Family Worker	0.9	4.4
Total	100.0	100.0

Women were more likely than men to be employees, with 84.8% of the female workforce in that employment status as compared to 76.2% for the male workforce. Women were also less likely than men to work for themselves. Some 22.9% of working men were employers or own accounts workers compared to about only 10.8% for women.

On average, a woman worked 6 hours less than a man. In 2016, the average number of hours worked per week by women was 35.5 compared to 41.1 for men.

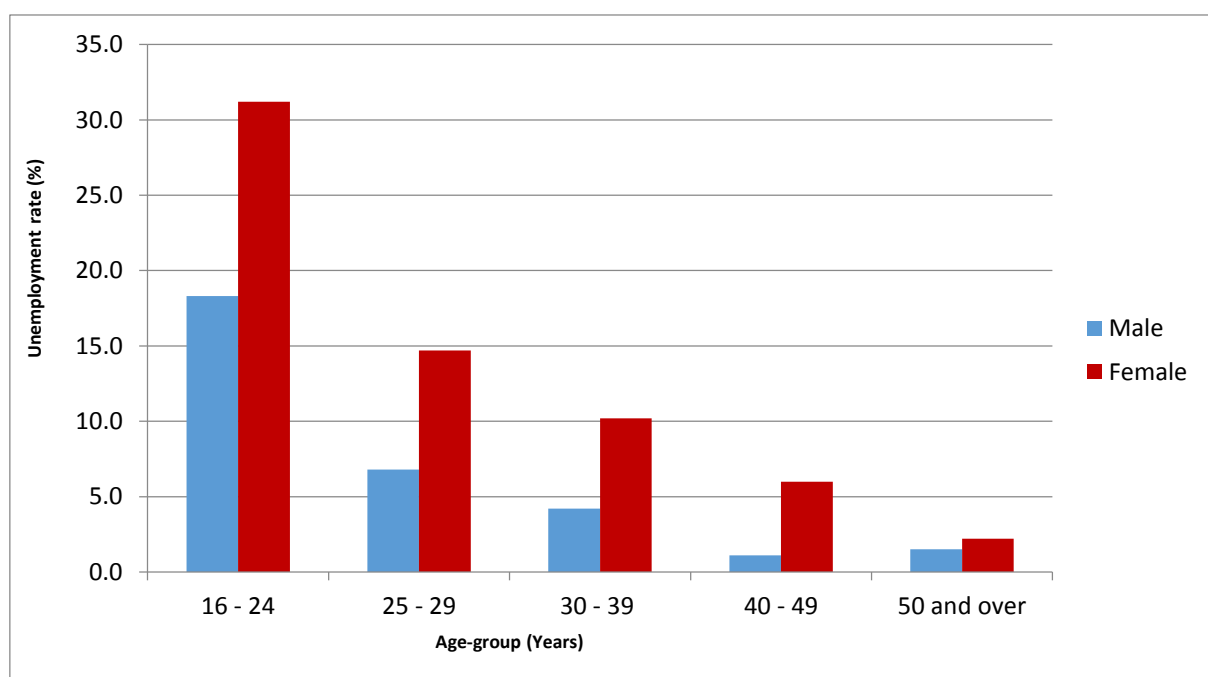
Across all occupational groups, women on average earned less than men. In the occupational category of managers, professionals and associate professionals, women earned on average 70 per cent of what men earned. In elementary occupations, women earned around half of what men earned.

Table 12 – Average monthly income (Rs) from employment by occupational group, 2016

Occupational group	Average monthly income (Rs)	
	Male	Female
Managers; Professionals; Technicians and associate professionals	40,200	29,100
Clerical support workers	22,300	17,800
Service and sales workers	18,400	11,000
Skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers; Craft and related trade workers; Plant and machine operators and assemblers	14,200	7,300
Elementary occupations	14,500	6,500
All employment states	21,700	15,600

In spite of being fewer in the labour force (representing only 39%), women were over represented among the unemployed; they made up nearly 60% of the total unemployed. Unemployed women numbered 25,500 in 2016 compared to 16,900 men. Female unemployment rate stood at 11.2%, much higher than the rate of 4.8% for male. The disparity between male and female unemployment rate was highest in the lower age groups; the difference was nearly 13 percentage points among the unemployed below 25 years and around 1 percentage point among those aged 50 years and above.

Chart 16 – Unemployment rate (%) by age group and sex, 2016



Unemployed women were generally more qualified than their male counterparts; around 7,600 (29.8%) of them possessed the School Certificate (SC) or Higher School Certificate (HSC) against

4,500 males (26.6%). Also, around 6,000 (23.5%) unemployed women attained tertiary level education as compared to 4,000 (23.7%) unemployed men.

Table 13 – Unemployed persons by educational attainment, 2016

Educational attainment	Male	Female
Primary	2,900	3,700
<i>of which passed CPE</i>	600	1,300
Secondary	10,000	15,800
<i>of which passed SC</i>	2,100	3,700
<i>of which passed HSC</i>	2,400	3,900
Tertiary	4,000	6,000
Total	16,900	25,500

10. Social benefits and senior living in infirmaries

In 2015/16, out of 197,037 Basic Retirement pensioners, 56% were women. During that period, the number of women receiving Basic Retirement Pension outnumbered their male counterparts by 22,995 and this number is expected to increase to around 27,000 by 2045. Both male and female pensioners were concentrated in the age group 60 to 69 years. It is to be noted that 72% of the pensioners in the age group 90 to 99 were women.

There were 19,890 recipients of Basic Widows Pension during the period 2015/16, a decrease of 10% compared to 22,140 in 2001. A large majority of widows (68%) were aged between 50 to 59 years.

Invalids pensioners numbered 29,287 in 2015/16, with an almost equal proportion of men and women.

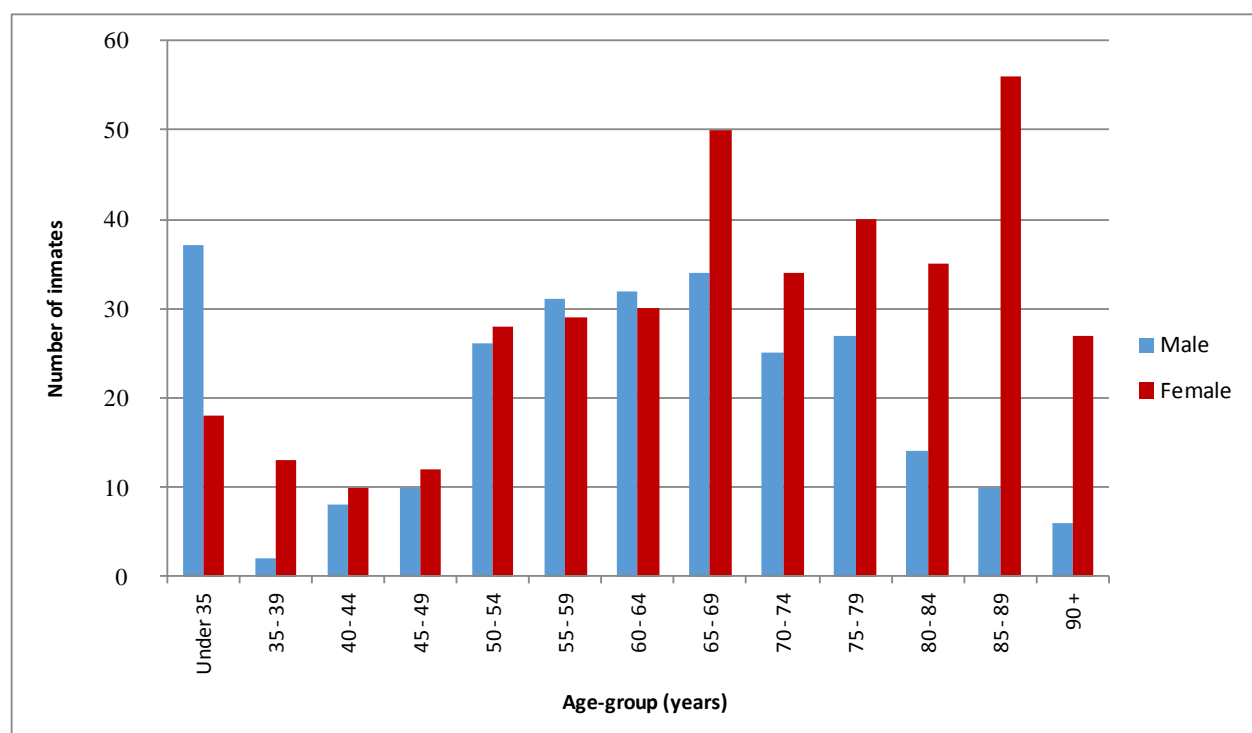
In 2015/16, 370 children received Basic Orphans Pension, amongst whom 51% were girls.

Table 14 – Number of beneficiaries of selected benefits, 2001 and 2015/16

Pension type	2001			2015/16		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Basic Retirement Pension	48,758	64,373	113,131	87,021	110,016	197,037
<i>of whom 90 years and above</i>	406	1,244	1,650	1,053	2,794	3,847
Basic Widow's Pension	n/a	22,140	22,140	n/a	19,890	19,890
Basic Invalid's Pension	10,961	11,009	21,970	14,971	14,316	29,287
Basic Orphan's Pension	341	310	651	180	190	370

In 2016, 59% of the 644 inmates living in infirmaries and orphanages registered at the Ministry of Social Security, National Solidarity and Reforms Institutions were women. The women residents were older than men with 31% aged 80 years and over compared to 11% for men.

Chart 17 – Number of Inmates in infirmaries and orphanages by age group and sex, 2016



Both men and women inmates were likely to suffer from a disease or a disability. Women inmates suffered mostly from other disabilities including multiple disabilities (32%) and from mental diseases (31%) whereas men inmates suffered mostly from mental diseases (27%) and diabetes (22%).

Table 15 – Distribution (%) of inmates in infirmaries by disability, 2016

Disability	Male	Female
Partial paralysis	14.1	10.7
Mental diseases	27.1	31.4
Heart diseases	5.0	3.9
Diabetes	22.1	17.8
Other (including those suffering from multiple disabilities)	14.9	31.7
Inmates with no disabilities	16.8	4.5
Total	100.0	100.0

11. Women in decision making

More women are occupying high positions in government services. The proportion of women in the most senior positions has increased from 23% to 40% over the past 15 years.

Table 16 – Senior position¹ in Government Services, 2001 - 2016

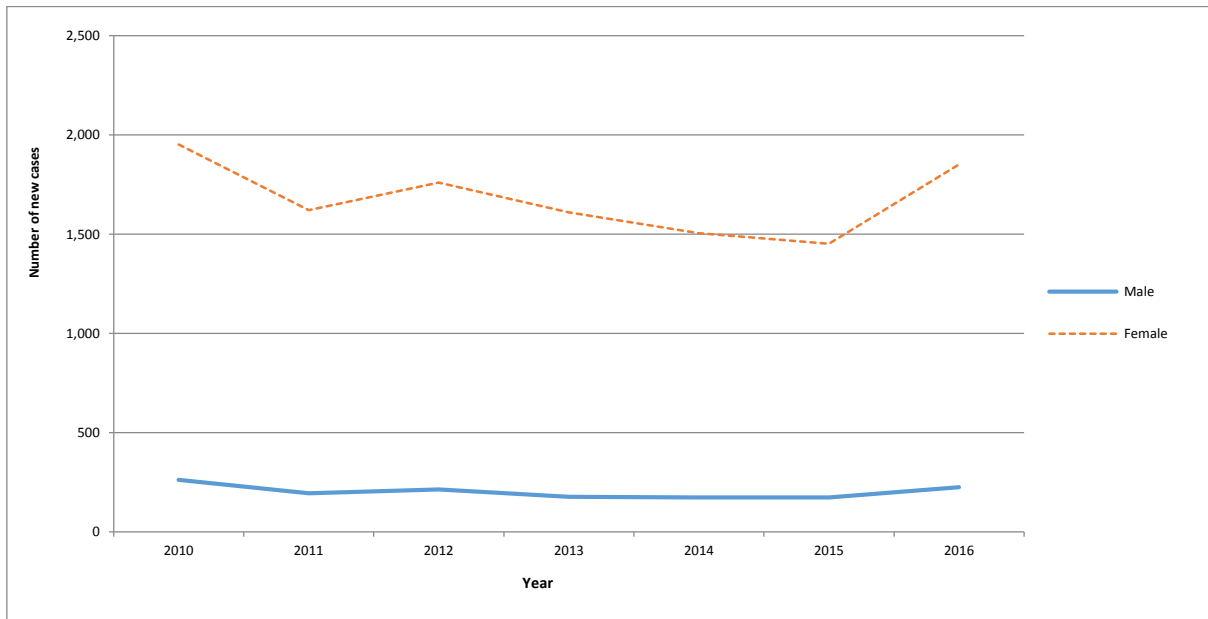
	2001		2006		2011		2016	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Men	291	76.6	233	62.3	273	62.9	348	60.0
Women	89	23.4	141	37.7	161	37.1	232	40.0
Total	380	100.0	374	100.0	434	100.0	580	100.0

¹ Senior Chief Executive, Permanent Secretary, Deputy Permanent Secretary, Director, Manager, Judge and Magistrate

12. Domestic violence

Women are more likely to be victims of domestic violence. In 2016, out of 2,077 new cases of domestic violence reported at the Ministry of Gender Equality, Child Development and Family Welfare, nearly 89% were against women. The number of new cases of domestic violence against women increased from 1,452 in 2015 to 1,852 in 2016. The number of men victims of domestic violence increased from 174 to 225 during the same period.

Chart 18 – Number of new cases of domestic violence reported, 2010 - 2016



Some 36% of women victims of domestic violence reported physical assault by spouse or partner, 15% verbal assault by spouse or partner (ill treatment, harassment, abuse, and humiliation), 11% threatening assault by spouse and nearly 8% has been subjected to harassment by spouse. Reported cases by men related mostly to physical assault by spouse or partner (21%), physical assault by others living under the same roof (17%) and verbal assault by spouse or partner (12%).

The total number of cases reported at the Child Development Unit of the Family Support Bureau is generally on the rise but a slight decrease was noted from 6,035 in 2015 to 5,904 in 2016.

Chart 19 – Number of cases reported at the Child Development Unit, 2000 - 2016



Of the reported cases in 2016, 54% of the victims were females. The most common nature of abuse was psychological/emotional (27% for male and 25% for female) followed by neglect cases (20% male and 15% for female) and physical abuse (14% for male and 9% for female).

Table 17 – Cases reported at the Child Development Unit by nature of problem, 2016

Nature of Problem	Male		Female	
	Number	%	Number	%
Abandonment	46	1.1	33	0.7
Physical abuse	300	13.5	265	8.8
Neglect cases	451	19.9	416	14.7
Worst forms of Labour	8	0.4	11	1.0
Sexual abuse	38	2.0	314	11.3
Psychological /Emotional abuse	750	26.9	754	24.8
Other problems	1,149	36.2	1,369	38.7
Total	2,742	100.0	3,162	100.0

13. Offences

Men are more likely to be victims of homicides and assaults while women are more prone to sexual offences. In 2016, 64% of the intentional homicides and 53% of the assaults were committed against men. 89% of victims of sexual offences were women.

Table 18 – Victims¹ of selected offences reported at the Police, Republic of Mauritius, 2016

Offences	Male	Female	Both sexes
Homicides	57	18	75
<i>of which Intentional homicides</i>	21	12	33
Assaults	6,228	5,545	11,773
Sexual offences	73	597	670
<i>of which Rape</i>	-	52	52

¹A person may be victim of one or more than one offence and/or an offence may involve one or more victims

Boys are much more likely to commit offences than girls. In 2016, only 5% of the juvenile offences were committed by girls. The female juvenile delinquency rate stood at 1.3 while that for male was 11.2.

Table 19 – Number of Juvenile offenders¹ reported, Republic of Mauritius, 2016

	Male	Female	Both sexes
Crimes	214	11	225
<i>of which drug offences</i>	18	-	18
Misdemeanours	454	64	518
<i>of which drug offences</i>	55	3	58
Contraventions ¹	1,003	7	1,010
Total	1,671	82	1,753
Juvenile Delinquency Rate ²	11.2	1.3	6.4

¹Persons aged 12 to 17 years

² Exclude contraventions established by camera

³Rate per 1,000 mid-year juvenile population and exclude contraventions

14. Sports

During the period 2013 to 2016, participation in high level sports was consistently lower among female athletes than male athletes. In 2016, participation among female athletes was 36% against 64% among male athletes.

Table 20 – Participation of high level athletes in sports, 2013 - 2016

	2013		2014		2015		2016	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Male	36	62.1	48	64.9	80	65.0	63	63.6
Female	22	37.9	26	35.1	43	35.0	36	36.4
Total	58	100.0	74	100.0	123	100.0	99	100.0

The most common sporting disciplines in which women participated in 2016 were “athletics” (36%) followed by “handisports” (22%) and “judo” (14%). No women participated in “boxing”, “kick boxing” and “tennis”, while among men, 17%, 3% and 2% respectively did so.

Table 21 – Participation of high level athletes in sports, as at December 2016

Sports discipline	Male		Female	
	No.	%	No.	%
Athletics	14	22.2	13	36.1
Tennis	1	1.6	-	-
Badminton	3	4.8	2	5.5
Swimming	4	6.3	1	2.8
Table Tennis	3	4.8	1	2.8
Cycling	5	7.9	1	2.8
Boxing	11	17.4	-	-
Judo	6	9.5	5	13.9
Weight lifting	3	4.8	4	11.1
Triathlon	-	-	1	2.8
Kick boxing	2	3.2	-	-
Handisports	11	17.5	8	22.2
Total	63	100.0	36	100.0

15. Global Gender Gap Indices

Since 2006, through the Global Gender Gap Report series, the World Economic Forum has been quantifying the magnitude of gender-based disparities and tracking their progress over time. By providing a comprehensive framework for benchmarking global gender gaps, the report identified countries that are role models in dividing their resources equitably between women and men, regardless of the overall resource level.

The Global Gender Gap Index (GGI) seeks to measure one important aspect of gender equality; their relative gaps between women and men across a large set of countries and across four key areas: economic participation and opportunity, educational attainment, health and survival and political empowerment. The equality benchmark is considered to be one with no gap between men and women.

Between 2015 and 2016, Mauritius improved its ranking from 120 to 113 out of 144 countries worldwide. Mauritius has closed both its education attainment and health and survival gender gaps with indices nearing 1, and it has progressed due to increases on both the Economic Participation & Opportunity and Political Empowerment subindexes (Table23).

Table 22 – Global Gender Index by selected countries, 2014 - 2016

Country	2014		2015		2016	
	Rank	Value	Rank	Value	Rank	Value
Iceland	1	0.859	1	0.881	1	0.874
Norway	3	0.837	2	0.850	3	0.842
South Africa	18	0.753	17	0.759	15	0.764
France	16	0.759	15	0.761	17	0.755
United Kingdom	26	0.738	18	0.758	20	0.752
Canada	19	0.746	30	0.740	35	0.731
United States	20	0.746	28	0.740	45	0.722
Australia	24	0.741	36	0.733	46	0.721
Singapore	59	0.705	54	0.711	55	0.712
Madagascar	41	0.721	74	0.698	60	0.704
Brazil	71	0.694	85	0.686	79	0.687
India	114	0.646	108	0.664	87	0.683
China	87	0.683	91	0.682	99	0.676
Mauritius	106	0.654	120	0.646	113	0.652
Pakistan	141	0.552	144	0.559	143	0.556
Yemen	142	0.515	145	0.484	144	0.516

Source: The Global Gender Gap Report 2016, World Economic Forum

Table 23 – Gender Gap Index for overall and four key areas, Republic of Mauritius, 2006 - 2016

Year	Overall	Economic participation	Educational attainment	Health and survival	Political empowerment
2006	0.633	0.483	0.983	0.980	0.085
2007	0.649	0.547	0.983	0.980	0.085
2008	0.647	0.527	0.988	0.980	0.091
2009	0.651	0.546	0.988	0.980	0.091
2010	0.652	0.549	0.988	0.980	0.091
2011	0.653	0.544	0.989	0.980	0.099
2012	0.655	0.554	0.990	0.980	0.095
2013	0.660	0.574	0.991	0.980	0.096
2014	0.654	0.551	0.990	0.980	0.097
2015	0.646	0.534	0.991	0.980	0.078
2016	0.652	0.550	0.991	0.980	0.087

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Appendix: Definitions of terms

Activity rate: The ratio (%) of the economically active population (employed and unemployed) to population aged 16 years and above.

Age specific fertility rate: the number of live births to women of a specified age-group per 1,000 women in that age-group.

Contributing Family Worker: A contributing family worker is a person who works without pay in an enterprise operated by a family worker.

Crimes: Offences that are punishable by: (a) penal servitude (b) fine exceeding 5,000 rupees.

Crude death rate: the number of deaths in a year per 1,000 mid-year population.

Current User of contraceptive method: A new acceptor who continues with the same or different method of contraception and pays regular return visits to the family planning service point to receive services and supplies.

Divorce rate: the number of persons divorced in a year per 1,000 mid-year population.

Employee: An employee is a person who works for pay for someone else, even in a temporary capacity.

Employer: An employer is a person who operates his/her own business or trade and hires one or more employees.

Employment: Employed population consists of Mauritians aged 16 years and above who have worked for pay, profit or family gain for at least one hour during reference week of a month. It includes those who are temporarily absent from work for reason such as leave with pay, leave without pay and temporary disorganisation of work (bad weather, break down of equipment, lack of order, etc).

Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER): Number of pupils enrolled in a given level of education, regardless of age, expressed as a percentage of the population in the relevant age-group

- 4 - 5 years for pre-primary
- 6 – 11 years for primary
- 12 – 19 years for secondary

Gender Parity Index (GPI): Ratio of the GER for female to the GER for male. It measures the relative education participation of boys and girls. A GPI of 1 reflects equal enrolment rate for boys and girls, whereas a GPI greater than 1 shows disparity in favour of girls.

Juvenile: a person aged below 18 years.

Juvenile delinquency rate: the number of juvenile offenders involved in offences (excluding contraventions) per 1,000 juvenile populations.

Life Expectancy at birth: the number of years a new born infant would live if prevailing patterns of mortality at the time of its birth were to stay the same throughout its life.

Marriage rate: the number of persons married in a year per 1,000 mid-year population.

Maternal mortality rate: number of deaths due to pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium per 10,000 live births during that year.

Misdemeanors: Offences that are punishable by:(a) imprisonment for a term exceeding 10 days; (b) fine exceeding 5,000 rupees.

New acceptor of contraceptive methods: Someone who accepts a contraceptive method for the first time from a provider of a family planning programme.

Own Account Worker: An own account worker is a person who operates his/her own business or trade but does not hire employees. He/She may be working alone or with the help of contributing family workers.

Primary sector: Primary Sector comprises activities related to 'Agriculture, hunting, Forestry and fishing' and 'Mining'

Secondary sector: Secondary Sector comprises activities related to 'Manufacturing, 'Electricity, gas and water supply' and 'Construction'.

Sex Ratio: The sex ratio is defined as the number of males per 100 females.

Total fertility rate: the average number of children born to an average woman assuming that she survives to the end of her child-bearing age and is subjected to a fixed schedule of age-specific fertility rates.

Unemployment Rate: Unemployment rate is the ratio (%) of unemployment to economically active population (employed and unemployed).

Unemployment: Unemployed population comprises all Mauritians aged 16 years and over who are not working but who are looking for work and are available for work during the reference week.